

REMARKS

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 12-14, 20, 22-23, 25-26, 28, 41 and 43 are pending in the application, with Claims 1, 20, 23, 26 and 41 having been amended and claims 9-11 having been canceled. Claims 1, 20, 23, 26 and 41 are the independent claims herein. No new matter has been added. Reconsideration and further examination are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections – 35 USC § 102(e)

Claims 1-3, 5-6, 12-14, 20, 22-23, 25-26 and 28 are rejected as being anticipated by Kamali et al. U.S. Publication No. 2004/0258000 (“Kamali”)¹.

Claim 1, as now presented, is directed to a “method” that includes “performing at least part of a digital subscriber line handshaking process by transmitting at least one handshaking signal to or from a DSL modem via a telephone subscriber loop” and “analyzing the at least one handshaking signal to detect an estimated length of the telephone subscriber loop”. Moreover, claim 1 has now been amended to specify that “the analyzing includes calculating a ratio of a power spectrum density of upstream signal carriers to a power spectrum density of downstream signal carriers, and the analyzing further includes calculating a ratio of a power spectrum density of a first group of downstream signal carriers to a power spectrum density of a second group of downstream signal carriers”. These newly added limitations are supported at page 7, lines 8-12 and page 7, line 26 to page 8, line 8 of the specification.

It is believed that claim 1, at least as now presented, is patentable over the Kamali reference. Paragraph 0024 of the reference discloses estimating the length of a loop based on one or more differences between the level of insertion loss in respective frequency bins. However, the reference does not disclose calculating the ratio of a power spectrum density of upstream signal carriers to a power spectrum density of downstream signal carriers. Also, the reference does not disclose calculating the ratio of a power spectrum density of one group of downstream signal carriers to a power spectrum density of another group of downstream signal

¹ Claims 41 and 43 were rejected on a similar basis under 35 USC § 103(a).

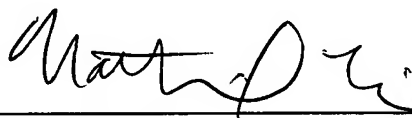
carriers. It is therefore submitted that this amendment to claim 1 has overcome the pending rejection of that claim.

The other pending independent claims, which are claims 20, 23, 26 and 41, have been amended in the same manner as claim 1, and are submitted as patentable on the same basis as claim 1. The remaining claims, all being dependent claims, are also submitted as patentable on the same basis.

CONCLUSION

Accordingly, Applicants respectfully request allowance of the pending claims. If any issues remain, or if the Examiner has any further suggestions for expediting allowance of the present application, the Examiner is kindly invited to contact the undersigned via telephone at (203) 972-3460.

Respectfully submitted,



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